

paying for expenses due to changing regulations (limited days at sea, catch limits and gear restrictions). Support industries are crucial to the survival of the fleet. And the survival of the fleet is crucial to the survival of the support industries. This interdependence puts our port city in danger of losing not only our fishing fleet, but these businesses as well.

While we all know that money does not bring happiness, not being able to support your family will take the joy out of life. Recently implemented regulations and those proposed in Framework 42 have added a new degree of insecurity to an already difficult industry. Fishing has always been physically demanding and dangerous work.

Fishermen's wives have always worried about whether their husbands would return safely to port. But today, because of these regulations, with each trip, groundfishermen wonder whether they will be able to provide for their families.

HONORING THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United Nations International Day of Peace. In 2002, the United Nations General Assembly declared September 21 as the permanent date for International Peace. Its purpose is to encourage the manifestation of the vital Spirit that unifies us amid our diverse ways. In a time where we are witness to mass violence, acts of genocide, and war, the United Nations International Day of Peace draws attention to the need to implement strategies linking development, security, human rights and peace into a cohesive framework.

It also presents an opportunity for citizens of our country to honor the Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, which emphasizes the need for the international community to recognize and implement strategies to focus on and ensure assistance for children exposed to harmful and violent situations.

On this day when we focus on the goal of individual and collective progress toward building cultures of peace, we must pause to remember the tragic loss of 2,683 fallen American heroes and the estimated 48,000 civilians in Iraq who have lost their lives due to war and violence.

As the lone remaining superpower, America serves as a model for other nations, and it is our duty to lead other nations to peace. On this International Day of Peace, we must reflect actions our nation can take to alleviate tensions and causes of conflict, such as bringing our troops home safely using an exit strategy that is executed with accountability and diplomacy and which helps achieve harmony among other nations.

As a proud representative of California's 15th Congressional District, I am committed to devoting myself and my district to building Cultures of Peace for the children of the world and for future generations. My constituents and I hope that the acts of peace we perform on this day serve to strengthen the ongoing legacy of democracy, liberty and equality within our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHICAGO
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS COL-
LEGE PREPARATORY HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of The Chicago Academy for the Arts, recently awarded this year's Creative Ticket National Schools of Distinction Award from the Kennedy Center's Alliance for the Arts Education Network.

The Chicago Academy for the Arts High School has served the students and families of the city of Chicago as well as students from Indiana and Wisconsin since 1981. The students at The Chicago Academy for the Arts have established an impressive record of academic achievement as well as artistic talent ranging from fine arts to acting to costume and set design. Ninety-seven percent of the Academy's graduates go on to top colleges and conservatories.

Since 1981, The Chicago Academy for the Arts has served as one of five private, independent, college-preparatory arts high schools in the United States. In addition to a traditional high school curriculum, students are given intensive training in the fields of: Music, Visual Art, Dance, Theater, Musical Theater, and Media Arts. Each day, students spend 5 hours in academics and 3 hours in their chosen art major, all of which include classes in theory, history, and technique.

The Chicago Academy for the Arts is designed to maximize each student's potential to communicate through the arts. The Arts Academy strives to prepare students to think critically and independently in order to prepare them to succeed in both higher education and their chosen field in the arts.

Alumni from The Chicago Academy for the Arts have gone on to attend schools such as the University of Chicago, Northwestern University, The Juilliard School, Brandeis University, and New York University and include such notables as actors John Cusack and Lara Flynn Boyle; screenwriter and director Adam Rifkin; and composer Alex Wurman as well as members of the Joffrey Ballet, New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I believe that it is important to support and recognize quality education in the arts. The Chicago Academy for the Arts is a shining example of art in education at its best. I am proud of the students, faculty and families of the school and I wish them continued success in the coming years.

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR, SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I recently took two actions regarding the genocide in Darfur that I wanted to bring to your attention.

At the U.N. General Assembly in New York on Tuesday, the president of Sudan claimed that the genocide in Darfur is a myth propagated by Jewish organizations raising money for Israel.

President Omar Hassan al-Bashir remarked that those "who made the publicity, who mobilized the people, invariably, are Jewish organizations."

This statement is unconscionable and demands a vigorous response. Such Anti-Semitic remarks have no place in our world, let alone at the U.N. General Assembly.

Furthermore, the mass killings, rapes and displacement of innocent civilians in Darfur are tragically well documented. The United States Holocaust Museum has issued a Genocide Emergency for Darfur.

Today I signed a letter with several other Members of Congress demanding that President Omar Hassan al-Bashir of Sudan retract his baseless remarks. The letter calls on the Sudanese government to abide by the Darfur Peace Agreement and the will of the U.N. Security Council.

A copy of this letter is reprinted below for your information.

In addition, I am an original co-sponsor of the Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2006.

This legislation will ban federal contracts going to corporations doing business in Sudan that directly or indirectly support the genocide.

Countless organizations have dedicated untold hours to stopping the carnage and human suffering in Darfur.

These organizations include the American Jewish World Service, Amnesty International, International Committee of the Red Cross and the NAACP.

The U.S. Congress must enact the Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2006 and join this list of international groups working to end the genocide in Darfur.

Sundown on Friday night marks the start of the Rosh Hashanah holiday, the Jewish New Year 5767, thus beginning a 10-day period of personal reflection and contemplation for Jews around the world.

This is a moment in human history when the poignant expression "Never Again" must be repeated over again, coupled with real action to end this tragic period of human suffering.

President OMAR HASSAN AL-BASHIR,
President of Sudan,
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT AL-BASHIR: We were shocked to hear your comments on Tuesday, September 20th, at the U.N. General Assembly where you stated that reports of deaths and refugees in Darfur are "fictions," and that those "who made the publicity, who mobilized the people, invariably, are Jewish organizations."

Many of us have traveled to Darfur and seen the death, destruction, and misery of the innocent civilians in Darfur with our own eyes. The last 3 years of violence in Darfur have resulted in the death of an estimated 200,000 people and millions have been forced from their homes. This atrocity has been encouraged and facilitated by your government.

We are grateful that the American Jewish community as well as other faith communities have made a priority of raising the issue of genocide in Darfur. Instead of using the ancient technique of making the Jewish community the scapegoat for your failures, we hope that you will take a close look at your own actions. In direct violation of the

Darfur Peace Agreement and the will of the U.N. Security Council, your government has recently deployed approximately 26,000 troops and attack helicopters to the Darfur region. Your actions have directly resulted in an increase of attacks on civilians and humanitarian aid workers.

Mr. President, we call on you to apologize for and retract your dangerous and fictitious accusations directed towards the Jewish community. We also demand that you work to uphold the Darfur Peace Agreement, and actively and immediately strive to end the genocide within your borders. Finally, we encourage you to work closely with Special Presidential Envoy Andrew Natsios who is ready to aid your nation to achieve a final peace. Rather than fanning the flames of conflict, we hope you will act to save lives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
REPORTS MILESTONE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker in an amazing demonstration of the strength of the American economy, the Treasury Department reported the largest single gross receipt of quarterly corporate taxes in our Nation's history last Friday. Without question, this milestone demonstrates the effectiveness of the pro-growth tax and fiscal policies advanced by this Congress. This news also proves that despite our obligations to protect our national security, fight the War on Terror abroad and cover the increasing costs of entitlement programs at home, the American economy will continue to grow and benefit the American people.

These historic tax receipts are not an isolated event. Last Friday's announcement is the result of back-to-back quarters of economic growth throughout America. According to the Treasury Department, last year's tax receipts were also a record high, having grown \$275 billion, or 14.6 percent, from the previous year.

Let's not forget about jobs. Increased corporate tax receipts are the result of greater corporate activity, which leads to job creation. Our economy has now added jobs for 36 straight months. The policies this Congress has set in motion have created the framework for an economy that has created more than 1.7 million jobs over the past 12 months and more than 5.7 million jobs since August 2003.

I and my colleagues are dedicated to continuing this trend by promoting legislation to roll back red tape, lower taxes on America's families and set the stage for a brighter future for all Americans.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIA'S
INDEPENDENCE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 15th anniversary of Armenia's independence. I would like to congratulate the Armenian Government, its people and the entire extended Armenian community on this momen-

tous occasion. Over the last 15 years, the Armenian people have made tremendous progress toward a modern, open and free democracy that should serve as an inspiration to other nations.

Following the collapse of the U.S.S.R., Armenia was among the first of the former Soviet republics to embrace the path of democratic change in pursuit of freedom and self-determination. However, the road to independence was not easy. Centuries of foreign domination, genocide against its people in the early 20th century and seven decades of totalitarian dictatorship did not discourage the Armenian people.

Since its independence, Armenia has emerged as a viable, vibrant society playing an important role in stabilizing the South Caucasus region. Armenia continues to be a trusted partner of the United States in a strategically important area of the world, a regional leader in political and economic reform, and a nation committed to the principles of democracy and the rule of law.

Armenia has joined the global war on terror by engaging in a strategic relationship with the United States and other coalition members. Armenia's armed forces also participated in NATO's stabilization force in Kosovo, in addition to maintaining and developing a robust program of individual partnership with the North Atlantic Alliance through its Euro-Atlantic Partnership framework.

Armenia also has made tremendous progress in building up a free-market economy. It is one of only a handful of countries to have qualified for the Millennium Challenge Account, is a member of the World Trade Organization and has been granted Permanent Normal Trade Relations status by the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Armenia has overcome a brutal legacy of Ottoman persecution, Soviet oppression, Azerbaijani aggression against Nagorno Karabagh, and the ongoing dual blockades by Turkey and its allies in Baku in its path to independence. I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing congratulations to Armenia as well as extend my sincere support and encouragement to flourish as a strong democracy for years to come.

DEDICATED TO PEACE IN SRI
LANKA

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my growing concern about the situation in Sri Lanka. I have followed the state of affairs in Sri Lanka for a long time, and it is clear to me that the current level of violence threatens to return the country to open civil war.

The renewed violence and rising death toll in Sri Lanka is troubling to me and many residents of my congressional district. They shared with me their apprehension about the growing levels of violence and I share their commitment to establishing a lasting peace in Sri Lanka.

That is why today I wrote to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice asking her to appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka. I attach that let-

ter. The appointment of a high level official with the ear of President Bush will ensure that our government is focused on doing everything in its power to bring a lasting peace to the people of Sri Lanka. Further, naming a special envoy will ensure that there is a U.S. government official solely dedicated to fostering cooperation between the two parties and working to establish a mutually agreed peace. This envoy also must have a clear mandate to monitor human rights violations on the ground and ensure that international humanitarian laws are observed by all parties.

It is my hope and prayer that the violence will end and that the parties in Sri Lanka will return to the peace negotiations. America must remain committed to fostering peace in Sri Lanka and working with the international community to bring an end to the current conflict. The people have endured civil war for too long. Our Nation must do everything it can to foster a lasting peace in Sri Lanka.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, DC, September 21, 2006.

Hon. CONDOLEEZZA RICE,
Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY RICE: I am writing to urge you to appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka because I am deeply troubled by the situation on the ground there. This summer brought an end to the negotiated permanent ceasefire, which had been generally observed since 2002. The renewed violence and rising death toll in Sri Lanka are a grave risk to the fragile peace process and threaten a return to open civil war.

News reports indicate that recent heavy fighting has resulted in hundreds of deaths and the displacement of more than 200,000 people in Sri Lanka. Parties to the conflict are not the only ones suffering. As you know, The Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) recently investigated the murder of 17 aid workers, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made clear just this week that "there is an urgent need for the international community to monitor the unfolding human rights situation."

Naming a special envoy for Sri Lanka would further emphasize our government's commitment to creating a lasting peace. It is essential that the U.S. envoy be a high-level official with the ear of President Bush and you. The envoy's mandate should be clear and must include efforts to increase monitoring of human rights violations.

The citizens of Sri Lanka have endured civil war for too long. We must do everything we can to foster a lasting peace for the country. Again, I request that you appoint a special envoy for Sri Lanka to help bring peace to the country.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT,
Member of Congress.

IN HONOR OF SGT. GERMAINE
DEBRO

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, "It's hard to be sad when I'm so proud. You are my hero." These were the words Alvin Debroy, Jr., used to bid his brother, Sgt. Germaine Debroy, a final goodbye.

Sgt. Debroy was killed near Balad, Iraq, on September 4 when his Humvee hit a roadside bomb.